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Please respond to  
"Oster, Katie"  
<Katie.Oster@TEA.STATE.TX.US>

To T3@LIST.TETN.NET

cc

bcc

Subject [TEA-L] March Announcements

Hello Everyone,

Please read through the latest announcements regarding the T3 Grant.

### **ARRA Reporting**

The second quarter ARRA Reporting will follow the same process and the deadline will be April 5<sup>th</sup>, 2010, in conjunction with your Expenditure Reporting in TEA's ER system.

There is also new guidance changing the methodology for calculating job creation estimates related to ARRA funding. The new guidance requires jobs created to be calculated as full-time equivalents (FTE) on a **quarterly**, rather than cumulatively, basis and specifies that recipients shall report jobs **funded** by ARRA dollars, rather than attempting to determine what jobs were created or retained due to the availability of ARRA funding. For more information, please go to

<http://ritter.tea.state.tx.us/tae/edstudinit020110.html>.

Please be sure to check TEA's ARRA Stimulus webpage frequently for updates.

<http://www.tea.state.tx.us/index4.aspx?id=4570>

### **Evaluation Reports Posted on the T3 Wiki**

The templates for Evaluation Report #2 which is due April 10, 2010 and for Evaluation Report #3 which is due July 10, 2010 are posted on the T3 Wiki. The T3 Wiki can be found at [www.t3grant.wetpaint.com](http://www.t3grant.wetpaint.com). Please make sure your evaluators are aware of these templates and their deadlines.

### **Evaluation Surveys in Spanish**

Nancy Little, the T3 Evaluation Lead, sent an email asking all grantees to respond. If you have not returned the spreadsheet sent to you by Nancy Little asking for the number of students being served and whether or not you need the Spanish translations, please do so immediately. Nancy has currently heard from 14 of the 33 collaboratives. Please return the completed spreadsheet to [nlittle78@sbcglobal.net](mailto:nlittle78@sbcglobal.net),

### **Evaluation Surveys will soon be Posted on the T3 Wiki**

The T3 Evaluation Surveys have been posted in PDF format on the T3 Wiki, so you can have a clearer picture of what the surveys will be asking. Watch your email for the unique URLs for the Evaluation Surveys to be sent April 1. These surveys must be completed between April 1 and May 31, 2010.

These surveys will become part of the Evaluation Report #3 which will be due July 10, 2010. We are in the process of providing Spanish translations for the parent and student surveys, and when they are completed, they will also be posted on the T3 Wiki. The surveys are mandatory and will be used to assist in the evaluation of the T3 Grant across the state.

### **Reminder: First Quarter Progress Reports**

All submitted first quarter progress reports have been reviewed and filed. It was exciting to hear the progress and impact that the ARRA funding is having on some of your schools. Thank you for all the links to pictures and success stories, as well as describing your challenges and how TEA can assist you in the future. The USDOE has already asked us for examples of successes in your districts and the information some of you have provided was helpful in responding to these requests. Please keep those positive quotes, reports, and pictures coming!

We have notified grantees via email if we had follow up questions or concerns with your reporting. If progress reports contained answers that were left blank or provided no details, they were sent back for further information. Please keep this in mind when answering next quarter's progress reports.

Many grantees expressed difficulty answering the final two columns of the budget question. Here is further clarification that should be helpful for next quarter's reporting:

"Plan for any remaining amounts"-this column should be answered with text describing what purchases you will be making in each of the Class Codes. You do not need to enter a dollar amount.

"Percentage of 25% PD Requirement met (Estimate)"- Here is an example:

- 25% of (Total Budget) \$499,899.00=\$124,972.25, minimum for professional development.
- \$14,225.00 Total paid for Q1 towards professional development.
- Break that down further (\$10,575.00 in Code 6200=7.5% and \$3,650.00 in Code 6400=3.9%).
- Therefore, \$14,225.00 total professional development purchased, divided by \$124,972 total PD required=11.4% (out of 25%) spent so far on professional development.

## Second Quarter Progress Reports

Please remember, progress reports for the T3 Collaborative Grant will be required quarterly, **per member district or charter school**. This quarter's Progress Report deadline is **April 10<sup>th</sup>, 2010**. Fiscal Agents, please ensure that all member districts and charter schools submit their progress reports by this deadline. The template for this quarter's progress report is attached.

Please be sure to include the name of your district in all attached documents you submit with your progress report.

Fiscal agents can submit their entire collaborative's reports in one email or member districts can submit them directly to [T3@tea.state.tx.us](mailto:T3@tea.state.tx.us).

Several collaboratives submitted identical first quarter reports for each district within their collaborative. We understand that within the first quarter, many member districts may not have detailed information to report. However, it will be expected that member districts provide information reflecting their individual district, even if part of a collaborative. Some questions, for example budget questions may be identical for all member districts, but program related questions should discuss the impact that the grant funding is having at a district level.

Please make sure you have read the First Quarter Progress Reporting follow up information provided in the article below to make this quarter's reporting even stronger.

## ARRA Funding Reminder

We have pulled an Expenditure Report reflecting expenditures to date. Many collaboratives are doing an outstanding job drawing down their funds. We've noticed collaborative who have \$0 spent, however their progress reporting reflects that purchases have been made, so the draw-down of these funds should be

reflected soon. As we anticipate the end of the second quarter, we expect to see more funds drawn down from all grantees.

Please ensure that your T3 grant program is fully committed to the direction provided by the US Congress and Secretary of Education. As ARRA recipients, it is essential that funding is being utilized in a timely manner to not only stimulate the economy and provide jobs, but also to benefit our Texas students by providing technology rich classrooms with engaging lessons as soon as possible. The expectation of the ARRA funding is to utilize funding immediately to help you reach your goals and to assist in stimulating the economy. The ARRA funding is currently being closely monitored by the US government and it is of highest importance that the State of Texas is compliant with their direction and reporting requirements.

## **Mark Your Calendars**

The T3 Conference is scheduled for August 4-5, 2010. More details to come.

## **Free THE Journal Speak Up Webinars**

Project Tomorrow® and T.H.E. Journal deliver a truly valuable, free series of six K-12 webinars based on results from nationwide Speak Up surveys. Topics include Mobile Devices with Instruction, Digital Content, Web 2.0 and Education, 21<sup>st</sup> Century Skills, Top 10 Trends in Student Learning with Technology and Internet Safety. Many of these webinars are currently available on demand at [http://thejournal.com/microsites/the-speak-up-webinars/speak-up-home.aspx?sc\\_lang=en](http://thejournal.com/microsites/the-speak-up-webinars/speak-up-home.aspx?sc_lang=en).

## **Best Practice Lessons through TATN**

The Technology Applications Teacher Network (TATN) is a collaborative project between the twenty Texas Education Service Centers and the Texas Education Agency. TATN is designed to provide Texas teachers with resources to implement the Technology Applications Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills in the K-12 classroom.

The TATN web site, <http://www.techappsnetwork.org/>, contains resources to teach the six dedicated High School Technology Applications Courses (Digital Graphics/ Animation, Desktop Publishing, Web Mastering, Multimedia, Video Technology and Computer Science). It also contains resources to integrate the K-8 Technology Applications Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills into the content area classroom. The 2010 TATN held in February was a huge success, attended by 1,350 eager educators. The nearly 80 break-out sessions allowed teachers great opportunities to share best practices with others. You can access these lessons by selecting "2010 TATN Event Lessons" from the TATN website.



T3ProgressReportQ2.docx